



David A. Clarke Jr.  
Sheriff

# Milwaukee County Office of the Sheriff

## ***NEWS RELEASE***

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 31, 2011

### **Deputies Arrest Repeat Drunk Driving Offender**



Milwaukee, WI - Milwaukee County Sheriff's deputies responded to calls of a vehicle deviating lanes on northbound I-94 from the county line last night at about 8:30 p.m. and stopped the driver when he exited the freeway in Milwaukee. Deputies observed indications that Michael L. McDonnell, age 44, was intoxicated and arrested him.

McDonnell is a drunk driving repeat offender, and faces felony charges of OWI-4<sup>th</sup> within five years, with a penalty of up to 6 years in prison. His previous convictions were in April 1993, March 2002, and July 2011. He is the 220<sup>th</sup> repeat offender this year, out of 965 total drunk driving arrests.

Sheriff Clarke pointed out at an OWI-enforcement news conference on Thursday that multiple drunk driving offenders are a huge problem. Until Milwaukee County Circuit Court judges attach real consequences to this behavior, the 3<sup>rd</sup>-offense will become a 4<sup>th</sup>, the 4<sup>th</sup> a 5<sup>th</sup>, and on and on. The repeat offenders represent more than 20% of the OWI arrests made, and stiffer sentencing would make a dramatic impact.

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